

## REVELATION 11:8 - 12:2

- A. Revelation 11:8-10 - And their dead bodies *shall lie* in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. Rev. 11:9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. Rev. 11:10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

1. The two godly witnesses who for three and one-half years have been prophesying of God's coming with judgments, signs and wonders, are **slain** by the Antichrist's power. Their bodies are not permitted to be **buried**, but left to lie in the streets of Jerusalem for all to **see** and to give the Antichrist praise.

Psalms 79:1-3 - O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance; thy holy temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps. Psa. 79:2 The dead bodies of thy servants have they given *to be* meat unto the fowls of the heaven, the flesh of thy saints unto the beasts of the earth. Psa. 79:3 Their blood have they shed like water round about Jerusalem; and *there was* none to bury *them*.

\*This shows the **true** believers' hearts at this moment.

2. Jerusalem, through it's apostate leaders, had become full of immorality ("Sodom" - sexual **per**version) and idolatry (Egypt - **per**secution).
  - a. Both Sodom and Egypt were visited with plagues and judgments which were similar to what Elijah and Moses had been dishing out.
  - b. But thank God for those in Israel who believed [where our Lord was crucified].
3. The world's **re**action to the death of Moses and Elijah is only jubilation. These ungodly people's reaction, wishing **they** had been the ones who had the satisfaction of killing them, was good riddance. It becomes like a world-wide Christ**mas** celebration - sales boom, gifts are exchanged, joy to the world the Lord and His witnesses are **dead**!

\*But note:

Job 20:5 - That the triumphing of the wicked *is* short, and the joy of the hypocrite *but* for a moment?

- B. Revelation 11:11 - And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

1. Do you think this made the evening news? Can you imagine when they **stood** up?
2. The two witnesses began to move and are raised by the power of God. The world's rejoicing is stopped by sheer horror and fear! This will be true **shock** and **awe**!

- C. Revelation 11:12-13 - And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. Rev. 11:13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

1. Not only are the two witnesses raised from the dead, but they also are called **up** by God to Heaven. This [come up hither] is not a Rapture, but an **asc**ension. They are immediately taken out of harm's way. As the world watches them, they are taken up. People of earth, transfixed as they stare and watch, are probably fearful of what judgment is **now**!

2. God then gives a warning of His **dis**pleasure of how His two witnesses were treated and especially the world's celebration when the two were killed. He sends an earthquake that destroys one tenth of the city of Jerusalem. Along with the shaking ground, **seven** thousand inhabitants die from the earthquake. The people's hearts only grow harder toward God (Pharaoh). \*Glory is given to God by a remnant of believers who had believed the two witnesses' **mess**age.

D. Revelation 11:14 - The second woe is past; *and*, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

1. The second woe, the sixth trumpet, started back in 9:12 up to here, Chapter 11:14 or Mid-Tribulation.  
\*God is now going to give an outline of the **fu**ture, the rest of the Tribulation. It goes from Mid-Tribulation to the **com**pletion of Daniel's 70th week and later.
2. The third woe begins with the sounding of the seventh trumpet that will introduce the seven vials of judgment. Judgments will extend to all events up to the Great White Throne Judgment. \*We know this is about the future events by verse 15's **pro**clamation.

E. Revelation 11:15 - And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

1. This is the verse that is the Jewish Hallelujah Chorus. Christ is going to govern each government of this earth. He is going to **ru**le over each one of them. All the kings of the earth will come, **bow** before Christ, and honor His Kingdom.

Psalms 72:11, 17, 19 - Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him. Psalms 72:17 His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and *men* shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed. Psalms 72:19 And blessed *be* his glorious name forever: and let the whole earth be filled *with* his glory; Amen, and Amen.

2. Finally, "Thy Kingdom come" will be **ful**filled. Here is Christ's long-awaited, prophesied, **vis**ible Kingdom.
3. Do not forget where we are in the Tribulation. We are at Mid-Tribulation. The final judgments are **ab**out to happen. It is at the end of these judgments that Christ returns to the earth, defeats His enemies, and sets up His 1,000 year Kingdom. Israel will once again be the **fa**vorred nation - people leading the way.

\* Here God gives the **final** picture of Christ's reign, victory, perhaps because of what judgment was coming after Mid-Tribulation. He wanted His people to know that there is **ho**pe at its end.

F. Revelation 11:16-17 - And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Rev. 11:17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

\*Satan has been **per**mitted power in the Heavenlies and in the earth. He is called the "prince of the air" and "the god of this world."

1. No doubt the Heavenly hosts, after Satan's rebellion, his causing sin to enter Heaven and earth, his hordes arrogantly roaming and spreading their evil for **7,000** years, and now soon to be done away with, **break**out in praise of God.

2. Think! Heaven's hosts have been patiently, trustingly, waiting for this moment. The 24 elders, representatives of the governments of the universe, fall down before God. They worship and thank God for His faithfulness to His promises. They are in awe when Christ takes the authority because of His victory, won through His D.B.R. (Who art, was, to come).

\*Christ will step up and proclaim: "It is time for me to exercise My right of authority to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords!"

Philippians 2:9-11 - Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: Php. 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; Php. 2:11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Zechariah 14:9 - And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

3. Also, these elders have no problem identifying who Jesus is. They call Him "Almighty God."

Revelation 1:18 - *I am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Isaiah 9:6 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

- G. Revelation 11:18 - And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

\*God will now give us the culmination of the Tribulation - Millennium, and White Throne.

1. [And the nations were angry]

Psalms 2:1-2 - Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? Psalms 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*,

\*Remember chapter six, the inhabitants on earth saw Jesus sitting in the Heavens? They knew He was there, and when this announcement - proclamation is made that He is getting ready to take earth by force, people of earth became angry!

2. [and thy wrath is come] John the Baptist had said: "Flee from the wrath to come." Here in Revelation it says that wrath is here. \*Wrath will be poured out through the final judgments of the seven vials.
3. [and the time of the dead, that they should be judged] This will take place in Chapter 20. There is a first resurrection and then a second or last resurrection. The first is for all those saved through God's dealing with man, mainly Israel. \*\*The second or last resurrection is for all those lost throughout the ages standing before the White Throne Judgment.
- a. Reward will be given to the saved prophets and saints.
- b. Those lost (second) will have their end by being cast into the lake of fire, the second death.

- H. Revelation 11:19 - And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

1. Here we are given a **glimpse** of Heaven. We see the Heavenly temple after which the earthly temple was patterned. As it is revealed to John, he sees inside the temple, the Holy Ark.

Note: The earthly ark was always **hidden** in the earthly temple because it represented the presence of God. For a human (except the high priest) to come into the ark's presence without God's **protection**, meant certain death. When Christ died, He opened up the way into the Holy of Holies and here it will be **visible**.

2. This ark, not what Moses built and **man** seeks, is the real thing. What Moses - Israel had was only a type - **picture**. Where was the real ark? In Heaven. When the real thing shows up, do you want the picture?

\*When the real deal, the substance shows up, what happens to the type - shadow? It is done **away** with or phased **off** the scene!

Hebrews 8:1-2, 5 - Now of the things which we have spoken *this is the sum*: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; Heb. 8:2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. Heb. 8:5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, *that* thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

Hebrews 9:23-24 - *It was* therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. Heb. 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

3. What we are seeing in Revelation 11:19 is the very Throne Room of Almighty God, where the **true** Ark of His testimony is.
  - a. This means today there is no true value to **hunt** for Moses' lost ark because it was just a type and God has never **lost** the real ark!
  - b. It would not be a surprise if the Antichrist would say he located it, and then parade it around for the Jews to follow him religiously.

I. Revelation 12:1 - And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the

\*Remember, this is still an **insert**, **added** information, that God is backing up with more details about the Tribulation. This is true until 16:1 before the vials of judgments are poured out. It is to help John know how these events pertain to His **beloved** Israel.

\*\*We will also see that God will use some figurative language that represents **truths**. Example: Who do the two olive trees in Chapter 11 represent?

\*\*\*Here in Chapter 12, John marks a critical **turning** point. These events in Chapter 12 will help us to understand **why** the remaining three and-one half years are called Jacob's trouble or the Great Tribulation.

1. Though the scene - sign is in Heaven, it is for those Jews on earth (I Corinthians 1:22). As the world prepares to enter the last three and one-half years, the Lord will once again speak to Israel in **signs**, miracles, and wonders.
2. [woman, clothed with...sun, moon, crown of twelve stars].
  - a. This is symbolic language, but the events that are represented by these signs are **real** and take place on earth.



- b. Some interpret "the woman" as Christendom, while some say it is the church today. What is the problem with that?

\*Most say "the woman" is Israel - Mary. The child is Christ, the dragon is Herod who sought the child's life (RCC). What is the problem with that?

Answer: That is impossible because the birth of Christ has already happened. It has been well documented as a historic fact. Christ was born 2,000 years ago. Also, we are at Mid-Tribulation and Revelation is all future! John already knew Christ had come and he did not need to write a prophecy about Jesus' birth that had already happened.

- (1) The "woman" is national Israel.

Isaiah 54:5-6 - For thy Maker *is* thine husband; the LORD of hosts *is* his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called. Isa. 54:6 For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.

John 16:21-22 - A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. John 16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

- (2) Joseph's dream helps interpret this as being prophetic.

Genesis 37:9-10 - And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. Gen. 37:10 And he told *it* to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What *is* this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

- (3) The "sun" is Jacob who is renamed Israel (Genesis 32:28) and the "moon" is Rachel, the mother of Joseph. The "twelve stars" are the 12 sons, heads of the 12 tribes of Israel.
- (4) This "woman" represents the nation of Israel, and all those Jews in the Tribulation that gather in Israel making it the nation of Israel. These are the Jewish people in the land during Anti-christ, the Tribulation, and who are part of the peace pact with him.
- (5) "Crown" on the 12 sons - 12 tribes tell us Israel will reign one day over earth.

J. Revelation 12:2 - And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

1. As Israel is about to give birth and delivery approaches, she delivers, not Christ, but a believing remnant. Because of the intense persecution, she will have a premature birth of the male child.
2. The man child will be a special group of believing Jews in Israel.
  - a. They will be born of God during the first three and one-half years of the Tribulation. The dead will be caught up to Heaven prior to the Great Tribulation.

Revelation 12:5 - And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and *to* his throne.

- b. These are the people, the overcomers of Revelation 2-3, who are totally devoted the first three and one-half years even to death.

Revelation 12:10-11 - And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. Rev. 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Revelation 3:21 - To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

3. I say a **pre**mature birth because prior to Israel's **com**plete restoration, prior to her reigning over the other nations, she gives birth to a [man child]. \*In the middle of the week, these believing overcomers are caught **up**, by being **raised** from the dead. The **liv**ing remnant will flee into the wilderness.
4. This resurrected, raptured group are God's **first** fruits before His harvest at His second coming.

Revelation 7:9, 13-14 - After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; Rev. 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? Rev. 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

\***These** are this "man child."